

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 200435 TOSEC 090082
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FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT FREDERIC A. MORITZ FRONT PAGE
BY-LINER, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, AUGUST 23, HEADED:
"VANCE GOAL IN PEKING: A TAIWAN COMPROMISE."

2. PEKING--A BANQUET HALL WAS SMALLER THAN THE ONE USED
FOR THE VISITS OF HENRY KISSINGER. AND NO TOP-RANKING
CHINESE OFFICIAL TURNED OUT TO TALK WITH US SECRETARY
OF STATE CYRUS VANCE.

3. BUT TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN-CHINESE RELA-
TIONS GOT OFF TO A SERIOUS, CAUTIOUS START AUGUST 22--
AMID PARADES, A NINE-COURSE BANQUET, AND A VISIT TO THE
HISTORIC IMPERIAL PALACE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 200435 TOSEC 090082

4. THE CHINESE SIDE LOST NO TIME IN REPEATING ITS
LONG-UNBENDING STAND ON TAIWAN. SHORTLY BEFORE MR.
VANCE'S LATE MORNING ARRIVAL AT PEKING AIRPORT, A NEW
CHINESE STATEMENT DEALING WITH TAIWAN WAS RELEASED. AS
EXCERPTED FROM CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG'S "POLITICAL
REPORT, TO THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED 11TH NATIONAL COM-

MUNIST PARTY CONGRE;S, IT ONCE AGAIN CALLED FOR SEVERING

US DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH TAIWAN, WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM THE ISLAND, AND AN END TO THE MUTUAL-SECURITY TREATY.

5. "WE ARE DETERMINED TO LIBERATE TAIWAN. WHEN AND HOW IS ENTIRELY CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIR," SAID THE STATE-MENT, WHICH ONCE AGAIN REFUSED TO RULE OUT MILITARY ACTION TO ACHIEVE THE ANNOUNCED GOAL.

6. AT A BANQUET FOLLOWING AFTERNOON TALKS, FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA POINTEDLY REFERRED TO THESE WORDS BY CHAIRMAN HUA ON TAIWAN AS "EXPRESSING THE WILL OF 800 MILLION CHINESE PEOPLE." BUT DESPITE REPEATED RECENT STATEMENTS BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION THAT IT STANDS BEHIND TAIWAN'S SECURITY, MR. HUANG'S TOAST WAS GENERALLY LOW-KEYED, UNABRASIVE, AND CAUTIOUS.

7. WHAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IS HOW THE CHINESE WILL REACT TO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON TAIWAN BEING BROUGHT BY MR. VANCE. THE US SECRETARY OF STATE IS BELIEVED INTENT ON FINDING OUT IF THE CHINESE WILL COMPROMISE BY ACCEPTING AN INDIRECT, LOWER-LEVEL US SECURITY COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN TO REPLACE THE 1954 DEFENSE TREATY. FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD THE CHINESE AGREE TO "LOOK THE OTHER WAY IF THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 200435 TOSEC 090082

UNITED STATES ENDED THE TREATY COMMITMENT BUT CONTINUED TO SUPPLY WEAPONS AND ECONOMIC AID TO TAIWAN?

8. SO FAR, NEITHER SIDE IS REPORTED TO HAVE DISCUSSED THESE COMPLEX ISSUES. THE 2 AND ONE HALF-HOUR TALKS BETWEEN MR. VANCE AND MR. HUANG AUGUST 22 CONSISTED OF A GENERAL EXPOSITION OF US FOREIGN POLICY IN EUROPE AND ASIA. ASIDE FROM INTRODUCTIONS, THE CHINESE SIDE NEVER SPOKE DESPITE INVITATIONS TO ASK QUESTIONS, ACCORDING TO SOURCES IN A POSITION TO KNOW WHAT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED.

9. THE EXPOSITION ON US POLICY WAS TO CONCLUDE AUGUST 25, THIS TIME TOUCHING ON LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA. THE TWO SIDES ALSO WERE EXPECTED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS OF "BILATERAL ISSUES" BETWEEN THEM, INCLUDING TAIWAN.

10. SO FAR, BOTH SIDES HAVE REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE 1972 SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. IN THAT DOCUMENT THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE CHINA BUT "REAFFIRMED ITS INTEREST IN A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE TAIWAN ISSUE BY THE CHINESE THEMSELVES."

11. ,NORMALIZATION (OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA) IS THE GOAL OF THAT POLICY," MR. VANCE

DECLARED IN HIS TOAST AT THE EVENING BANQUET.

12. DESPITE THE CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE, THE CHINESE CLEARLY ARE PLAYING DOWN MR. VANCE'S VISIT COMPARED WITH VISITS BY PREVIOUS AMERICAN PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF STATE. NEITHER CHAIRMAN HUA NOR VICE-PREMIERS TENG HSIAO-PING AND LI HSIEN-NIEN WERE PRESENT AT THE BANQUET AUGUST 22. THE CHINESE EXPLANATION IS THAT MR. VANCE IS ONLY SECRETARY OF STATE, NOT PRESIDENT, AND NOT EVEN NATIONAL-SECURITY CHIEF AS DR. KISSINGER WAS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 200435 TOSEC 090082

13. ROSS MUNRO OF THE TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL REPORTED IN A COPYRIGHTED DISPATCH FROM PEKING AUGUST 22:

14. MR. VANCE'S OVERRIDING AIM IS TO DISCOVER WHETHER THE PRIVATE CHINESE POSITION ON TAIWAN IS AS INFLEXIBLE AS ITS PUBLIC POSITION SEEMS TO BE. IF THE CHINESE INDICATE THEY ARE WILLING TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SORT OF DEAL--EVEN A FACE-SAVING VERBAL FORMULA--ON THE TAIWAN ISSUE, THEN THE TWO COUNTRIES COULD BEGIN MOVING TOWARD DIPLOMATIC NORMALIZATION.

15. SOME DIPLOMATS REPRESENTING THIRD COUNTRIES HERE HAVE CONFLICTING VIEWS ON WHETHER THE CHINESE ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY IMPATIENT WITH THE US OVER THE LACK OF PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZATION. SOME POINT TO SEVERAL STRONG STATEMENTS REGARDING TAIWAN IN RECENT MONTHS BY CHINESE OFFICIALS. OTHERS REPLY THAT THOSE STATEMENTS ARE NO TOUGHER THAN SEVERAL MADE IN 1975 BEFORE THEN PRESIDENT GERALD FORD VISITED HERE. CHRISTOPHER

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